AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. - 5. (Canceled)

- 6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 23, further comprising storing information relating to e-mail accounts at a central location.
- 7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein information relating to e-mail accounts is linked to identifiers of receiver/decoders, and wherein the information relating to e-mail accounts is linked to smartcard numbers of receiver/decoders.
- 8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein the broadcast signal is part of a subscription service and information relating to e-mail accounts is linked to information relating to the subscription service.
- 9. 15. (Canceled)
- 16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 23, wherein the broadcast signal is a digital data stream.
- 17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein the notification message is sent as a section of the digital data stream.
- 18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein the notification message is sent by way of an entitlement management message.
- 19. 22. (Canceled)
- 23. (Currently Amended) A method of communicating with a mail centre, comprising: running an email application on a receiver/decoder, wherein the receiver/decoder is a receiver/decoder of broadcast signals and wherein the receiver/decoder is used to provide a user with access to a plurality of television programs and services; and displaying with the receiver/decoder by means of the email application an email received in a broadcast signal at said receiver/decoder.

24. - 25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 38, further comprising means for storing information relating to e-mail accounts at a central location.

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- 27. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 26, wherein information relating to e-mail accounts is linked to identifiers of receiver/decoders, and preferably wherein the information relating to e-mail accounts is linked to smartcard numbers of receiver/decoders.
- 28. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 26, wherein the broadcast signal is part of a subscription service and information relating to e-mail accounts is linked to information relating to the subscription service.
- 29. 33. (Canceled)
- 34. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 38, wherein the broadcast signal is a digital data stream.
- 35. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 34, wherein the apparatus is adapted to send the notification message as a section of the digital data stream.
- 36. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 34, wherein the apparatus is adapted to send the notification by way of an entitlement management message.
- 37. (Canceled)
- 38. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for transferring an e-mail from a mail center to a user, comprising:
 - means for running an email application on a receiver/decoder, wherein the receiver/decoder is a receiver/decoder of broadcast signals and wherein the receiver/decoder is used to provide a user with access to a plurality of television programs and services; and
 - means for displaying with the receiver/decoder by means of the email application an email received in a broadcast signal at said receiver/decoder.
- 39. 48. (Canceled)
- 49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the broadcast is via cable or optical fiber.

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50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the email is sent without any prompt.

- 51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, further comprising requesting by the receiver/decoder for broadcast notification from the mail centre of waiting emails.
- 52. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the broadcast is via cable or optical fiber.
- 53. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the email is sent without any prompt.
- 54. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the receiver/decoder send requests to the mail center for broadcast notification of waiting emails.